

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A cultural interface protocol application for use on a computer system comprising:

a user profile stored in a memory of said computer system for defining cultural attributes;

5 a protocol interface for interfacing with a client application; and

an algorithm for determining ones of said cultural attributes to communicate to said client application, wherein said client application is configured according to said determined ones of said cultural attributes.

2. The cultural interface protocol application of claim 1 wherein said cultural attributes comprise at least one of:

user language preferences; and

a user ethnic origin.

3. The cultural interface protocol application of claim 2 wherein said user language preferences comprise:

a list of languages ranked according to user preference.

4. The cultural interface protocol application of claim 1 wherein said client application comprises one of:

a software application;

an Internet website; and

5 a data network.

5. The cultural interface protocol application of claim 2 wherein said configured client application is presented to said user in user language preference and graphical representation associated with said user ethnic origin.

6. The cultural interface protocol application of claim 1 where said algorithm determines said ones of said cultural attributes using configuration parameters communicated from said client application.

7. The cultural interface protocol application of claim 5 further comprising a database of graphical interface objects used by said client application in rendering a graphical user interface of said client application, wherein said database is associated with said client application.

8. The cultural interface protocol application of claim 5 further comprising a database of graphical interface objects used by said client application in rendering a graphical user interface of said client application, wherein said database is associated with said user profile.

9. The cultural interface protocol application of claim 1 wherein said cultural interface protocol application is pre-installed on said computer system, said protocol application further comprising:

a user attribute interface for prompting said user to select desired ones of said cultural attributes from a predefined plurality of said cultural attributes.

10. The cultural interface protocol application of claim 1 further comprising:
an installer for installing said protocol application onto said computer system; and

an installation prompt for allowing said user to select desired ones of said cultural attributes from a predefined plurality of said cultural attributes.

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11. A method for providing a cultural specific user interface comprising the steps of:

entering user ethnicity objects into a cultural user profile;

interfacing with a client application;

5 analyzing available graphical user interface (GUI) parameters of said client application;

communicating selected ethnicity objects to said client application responsive to said analyzing step; and

10 configuring a GUI of said client application according to said communicated ethnicity objects.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein said entering said user ethnicity objects step comprises at least one of the steps of:

entering a set of languages preferred by said user;

entering a cultural origin of said user; and

5 entering an originating country of said user.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein said analyzing step comprises the steps of:

receiving said available GUI parameters from said client application; and

determining said ones of said available GUI parameters variable according to said user ethnicity objects.

14. The method of claim 11 wherein said configuring step comprises the steps of:
receiving said communicated ethnicity objects;
adjusting said available GUI parameters according to said received ethnicity objects;
and

5 rendering said GUI of said client application according to said adjusted available GUI parameters.

15. The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of:
retrieving graphical mapping objects from a database used in said rendering step.

16. A computer program product having a computer readable medium having computer program logic recorded thereon for providing a cultural specific user interface comprising:

means for obtaining user ethnicity objects;

means for creating a cultural user profile using said user ethnicity objects;

means for communicating with a client application;

means for determining variable graphical user interface (GUI) parameters of said client application;

means for selecting ethnicity objects from said cultural user profile responsive to said determining means; and

means for configuring said client application GUI according to said selected ethnicity objects.

17. The computer program product of claim 16 wherein said means for obtaining said user ethnicity objects comprises at least one of:

means for entering a set of languages preferred by said user;

means for entering a cultural origin of said user; and

means for entering an originating country of said user.

18. The computer program product of claim 16 wherein said means for determining comprises:

means for receiving indication from said client application of said variable GUI parameters;

means for comparing all of said user ethnicity objects to said variable GUI parameters; and

means for providing ones of said user ethnicity objects corresponding to said variable GUI parameters.

19. The computer program product of claim 16 wherein said means for configuring comprises:

means for communicating said selected ethnicity objects;

means for adjusting said variable GUI parameters according to said selected ethnicity objects; and

means for rendering said client application GUI according to said adjusted variable GUI parameters.

20. A language and cultural interface protocol application comprising:

a cultural profile of user specific cultural objects said objects comprising:

a list of languages preferred by a user; and

a cultural origin of said user;

5 an application interface for facilitating communication between said protocol and a client application;

a host interface analyzer for determining ones of graphical user interface (GUI) parameters of said client application which are variable according to ones of said user specific cultural objects; and

10 an object communicator for communicating selected ones of said user specific cultural objects to said client application wherein said client application varies said variable GUI parameters according to said communicated user specific cultural objects.